

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

My name is Doug Hudson and I am writing to you regarding your consideration of dropping the requirement that telephone companies be required to provide ISPs access to their networks. Removal of this requirement would be a tremendous mistake.

I, and millions like me, depend on my local Internet Service Provider to give me access to Internet services and options not available from the large telephone carriers. If you choose to remove my ISPs' access to the telephone network, they will no longer be able to provide me and others the level of service we have come to enjoy and depend on for Internet access. Such action will simply force the independent ISPs out of business and will limit consumer choice.

Furthermore, by removing the requirement and reducing consumer choice, you will likely also allow consumer rates to rise. By having a choice between several providers, I am not only allowed to find the best services to suit my needs, but also the best price. Reducing the number of ISPs in the marketplace will certainly have the obvious result of reduced competition and increased prices for consumers.

I sincerely hope that you give this matter serious consideration. Consumers across America are depending on you to make the right decision, which is to maintain and grow the level of competition in the Internet marketplace. That goal is best met by protecting and nurturing competitive market conditions for the thousands of independent ISPs and not through their destruction.

Commissioners, I urge you to continue to protect the ISPs' access to the public telephone networks, thereby protecting the rights of millions of consumers like me.

Sincerely,
Doug Hudson

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Doug Hudson
119 Fairmeade Road
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